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IN MEMORIAM
HARRIS C. FAHNESTOCK
A TRUSTEE OF
THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART
1901-1914

IN the death of Harris C. Fahnestock the Museum has sustained the loss of a Trustee who for many years had been identified with some of its important work, to which he was always faithful and devoted. He became a Fellow of the Corporation in 1871 and a Trustee in 1901, served on various committees, signally that of the Committee on Finance, for seven years, was Treasurer of the Museum from September 1, 1902, until failing health compelled his resignation on February 20, 1905. Up to the last, he was a constant attendant at the meetings of the Board and did his part toward promoting the prosperity of the Museum. His high personal character and his recognized standing in the business world made him an important member of the Finance Committee from 1905 till 1908, and of our Auditing Committee from 1909 to 1914. The duties of these Committees are arduous and their importance and value not always appreciated, and his associates on the Board of Trustees cannot part with him without an expression of their profound regret at his death and their high appreciation of his services to the Museum.

WILLIAM M. R. FRENCH
1843-1914

WILLIAM MERCHANT RICHARDSON FRENCH, the Director of the Art Institute of Chicago, died at his home in that city on June third. He was an elder brother of Mr. Daniel C. French, the sculptor, who is a Trustee of the Metropolitan Museum.

Mr. French was born at Exeter, N. H., October 1, 1843, was graduated from Harvard in 1864, and then practised civil en-

gineering and landscape architecture. He was a constant student of art and even at that time became well known as a writer and lecturer on art topics. In 1878 he became connected with the old Chicago Academy of Design, which had maintained an art school since 1867. He re-organized the school and, incorporated under the name of Art Institute of Chicago, it increased its activities so as to include the "formation and exhibition of collections of objects of art."

In 1882 Mr. Charles L. Hutchinson was elected president of the Art Institute, a post which he still occupies, and he and Mr. French worked hand in hand for the upbuilding of both the school and the museum. They erected a brick structure with galleries, then a few years later built a four-story addition on an adjoining lot, but this too was soon outgrown. When plans were being made for the Columbian World's Fair, a city ordinance provided that the building erected on the lake front at Adams Street for the use of World Congresses should, at the close of the Exposition in 1893, become the permanent home of the Art Institute. Valuable gifts of paintings and objects of art have been received from time to time until the museum is now one of the most important in the United States, the extent of its collections being exceeded only by those in New York and Boston.

Mr. French was the active director of every part of the work. The school, which is open all the year, had over three thousand students in 1913. He encouraged the use of the building by the public; lectures and concerts were given almost daily in Fullerton Memorial Hall, the library was visited by over 77,000 people last year, and current exhibitions with many receptions brought the total attendance for 1913 up to 925,607.

Of a strong and able character, devoted to his work, generous and friendly toward all who sought his help or upon whom he brought his influence to bear, Mr. French occupied a unique place in the world of art.